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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7620
INFO IAEAC/IAEA MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE
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RUEHVJ/AMEMBASSY SARAJEVO 0007
RUEHLC/AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE 0177
RUEHKM/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 0001
RUEHLB/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 0008
RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO 0001
RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA 0001
RUEHSI/AMEMBASSY TBILISI 0022
RUEHRH/AMEMBASSY RIYADH 0042
RUEHAD/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI 0001
RUEHMS/AMEMBASSY MUSCAT 0001
RUEHDO/AMEMBASSY DOHA 0003
RUEHKU/AMEMBASSY KUWAIT 0019
RUEHMK/AMEMBASSY MANAMA 0004
RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN 0031
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 1409

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 000069

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/FO CATALANO AND ISN/RA NEPHEW

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/13/2030
TAGS: [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [IR](#) [UNSC](#) [ZA](#)
SUBJECT: ZAMBIA BACKS US ON IRAN

REF: SECSTATE 9124

Classified By: Charge Michael Koplovsky, reason 1.4, b/d.

11. (C) MFA Assistant Director for Africa and Middle East Kimbala Meleka said he would recommend to the Foreign Minister that Zambia support the U.S./EU3 next steps on Iran per reftel. In the absence of the Foreign Minister and the Permanent Secretary, P/E Chief delivered reftel information and talking points to Meleka February 4, his earliest availability. Meleka welcomed the information and nodded encouragingly throughout the demarche. In a bold move uncharacteristic of normally cautious Zambia bureaucrats, Meleka immediately agreed that intentions behind Iran's nuclear program were unclear and even suspicious. He commended the P5 1, especially the Obama administration, for their efforts to find a diplomatic solution to the Iran nuclear problem and agreed that further pressure on Iran was the only way to persuade Iran to change from its currently dangerous course. Meleka said he would recommend, immediately upon FM Pande's return from the AU summit, that Zambia support efforts at the UN to strengthen sanctions.

12. (C) Although P/E Chief noted that a public statement by Zambia was the surest way to demonstrate to Iran that the world was united against Iran's avoidance of a diplomatic solution, such a suggestion is unlikely to resonate at the passive and low-key Zambian MFA.
KOPLOVSKY